

May 5, 2005

## Public Notice

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of Scoping Meetings

**SUMMARY:** The Fort Worth District, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) hereby announces its intent to hold National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) public scoping meetings for the potential multipurpose project for ecosystem restoration, flood damage reduction, and recreation development within the upper Cibolo Creek Watershed, Texas.

Water agencies and governmental entities have joined with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a comprehensive study of the ecosystem in the Cibolo Creek Watershed including the potential to enhance the quality and quantity of water that recharges the Edwards/Trinity aquifer systems, while reducing the impact of floods within the cities of Selma and Schertz. The study will investigate the potential application of several ecosystem restoration Best Management Practices including brush management initiatives, development of buffer strips, prescribed grazing, and a variety of other water quality enhancements. The study is also investigating the placement of detention facilities in the watershed to facilitate recharge and flood reduction. The study will produce recommendations of individual projects or a combination of projects to improve environmental resources within the watershed. Non-Federal sponsors for the study are the San Antonio River Authority (SARA), San Antonio Water System (SAWS), and Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA). The United States Geological Survey and Natural Resources Conservation Service are also cooperating in the study. The study area is shown on the enclosed map.

Authorization for conducting the study was provided in a resolution by the United States House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure requested the Secretary of the Army to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Guadalupe and San Antonio Rivers, Texas, published as House Document 344, 83<sup>rd</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, and other pertinent reports, with a view to determining whether any modifications to the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time, with particular reference to providing improvements in the interest of flood control, environmental restoration and protection, water quality, water supply, and allied purposes on the Guadalupe and San Antonio Rivers in Texas, to conduct a study of the Guadalupe and San Antonio Rivers pursuant to House Resolution docket 3547 dated 11 March 1998.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** Two public scoping meetings are scheduled within the Cibolo Creek Watershed. Meetings will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on May 17, 2005, at the Cibolo Nature Center, 140 City Park, Boerne, TX, 78006 (830)-249-4616 and May 18, 2005, at the Garden Ridge Community Center, 21340 FM 3009, Garden Ridge, TX, 78266 (210) 651-7440. All affected Federal, state, and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and persons are hereby invited to provide scoping comments that should be

considered during the remainder of the feasibility study. A Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement has not been published in the *Federal Register*. USACE will use information collected during the scheduled public scoping meetings to identify issues to help determine whether or not to prepare an environmental assessment or file a Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Ed Foo, CESWF-PM-C, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, P.O. Box 17300, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300, phone (817) 886-1375, fax (817) 886-6442 email [edward.c.foo@swf02.usace.army.mil](mailto:edward.c.foo@swf02.usace.army.mil) or visit the Fort Worth District website at [www.swf.usace.army.mil](http://www.swf.usace.army.mil).

William Fickel, Jr.  
Chief, Planning, Environmental,  
and Regulatory Division

Newman/1762  
PAXTON, CESWF-PER-EE  
HARBERG, CESWF-PER-E  
GRIFFITH, CESWF-PER-P  
FICKEL, CESWF-PER  
BROOKS, CESWF-PM-C  
CHURCH, CESWF-PA

